The details of imports of agricultural commodities into Japan are given below:

(US $ Billion)

| | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 |
|---|---|---|---|
| US | 10.51 | 11.58 | 12.00 |
| China | 2.68 | 3.02 | 3.43 |
| Taiwan | 2.64 | 2.86 | 3.08 |
| Australia | 2.15 | 2.29 | 2.67 |
| Thailand | 1.93 | 2.16 | 2.23 |
| Canada | 1.98 | 2.14 | 2.13 |
| Republic of Korea | 1.55 | 1.57 | 1.56 |
| Indonesia | 0.90 | 0.91 | 1.10 |
| France | 1.14 | 1.12 | 1.09 |
| Denmark | 0.79 | 0.89 | 0.95 |
| Others | 8.98 | 9.56 | 9.92 |
| TOTAL | 32.35 | 38.10 | 40.16 |

(SOURCE: Embassy of India, Japan)

**New Policy of Coffee Board**

3507. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 797 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1994 and state:

(a) what mechanism will be introduced by the Coffee Board to provide coffee in the domestic market at rates prevalent earlier to the new policy of the Coffee Board;

(b) whether the new. policy of the Coffee Board favours the planters and taxes the consumers; and

(c) whether Government will consider levying cess on export of coffee to subsidise the domestic price of coffee as the planters are making hudge profits and export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) As a measure to contain the rise in prices of coffee in the domestic market, the Govt, has recently directed the Coffee Board to release export permits not exceeding, 1,10,000 tonnes only for the period 1.1.94 to 31.12.94 arid at a monthly quota not exceeding 5000 tonnes from Sept. to Dec, 94. The Coffee Board has also been -directed not to permit export of C grades, BBB and Peaberry grades till further orders except in such cases for which valid applications had been received by the Board upto 5.8.94.

(b) The Free Sale Quota introduced recently is expected to minimise the intermediary & establishment costs of coffee marketing thereby benefiting both the consumers and the growers.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of Government at present to. levy cess on export of coffee to subsidise its domestic price.

**Pending Claims Under IPRS**

3508. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister COMMERCE be pleased to .late:

(a) what is the total amount of claims pending under the International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) as on the 30th June, 1954;

(b) what steps have been taken to settle the pending claims;

(c) whether it is a fact that the claims relating to the year 1992 onwards from the industrial units in Tamil Nadu State are pending; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The total value of claims pending under the International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) as on 1.7.94 was- Rs. 389.32 crores, of which fully cleared claims, worth Rs. 173;31 crores were pending payment for want of funds.

(b) IPRS payments are primarily financed out of periodical receipts from the cess levied on integrated steel plants. Recently, a sum of Rs. 25 crores has been released for settling the IPRS claims.

(c) and (d) Some claims pertaining to exports made from 1992 onwards are pending payments for want of funds.

**गुजरात में चाय के बाग लगाना**

3509. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विशेष रूप से गुजरात राज्य में चाय के बाग लगाने की संभावना का पता लगाने हेतु कोई सर्वेक्षण किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रयोजनार्थ किन-किन क्षेत्रों की पहचान की गयी है; और -

(ग) सरकार ने चाय के बाग लगाने हेतु किसानों को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए हैं अथवा उठाने का विचार रखती है?

**वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमारुद्दीन अहमद):** (क) और (ख) गुजरात में चाय की खेती की संभावनाओं का पता लगाने के लिए चाय बोर्ड ने गुजरात कृषि उद्योग निगम की सहायता से अगस्त, 1990 में एक सर्वेक्षण किया था। गुजरात के तीन जिलों—सूरत, डांग और बलसाड़ के लिए गए सर्वेक्षण में पाया गया कि वहां की जलवायु परिस्थितियां चाय की खेती के लिए बहुत अधिक अनुकूल नहीं है। फिर भी, गुजरात की राज्य सरकार के अनुरोध पर चाय बोर्ड और आगे अध्ययन के लिए डांग और सूरत जिलों में परीक्षण रोपण करने के लिए तैयार हो गया है। इस प्रस्ताव पर गुजरात की राज्य सरकार का अभी कोई उत्तर नहीं मिला है।

(ग) चाय बोर्ड, चाय उद्योग विकास क्रियाकलापों के लिए, ऋण, पूंजीगत इमदाद और बैंक ऋण पर ब्याज इमदाद के रूप में वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करता है। लघु चाय उपजकर्ताओं को चाय की खेती करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से बोर्ड स्पेशल निवेश और ब्याज इमदाद योजनाएं चला रहा है।

**Extent Area for Tobacco Prodction In Andhra Pradesh**

3510. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

i (a) what are the district-wise figures of extent area* under which tobacco was grown in 1993-94 in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there has been a fluctuation over the last two seasons in the above figures; and

(c) if so, the approximate production of tobacco in 1993-94 season in Andhra Pradesh'.'

. THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) District-wise area in which tobacco was grown in A. P. in 1993-94 is given below:

| S.No | . District | Area (thousand Hec). |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Vijayanagaram | 1.8 |
| 2. | Visakhapatnam | 1.8 |
| 3. | East Godavari | 7.8 |
| 4. | West Godavari | 20.2 |
| 5. | Krishna | 5.1 |
| 6. | Guntur | 4.3 |
| 7. | Prrakasain | 54.1 |
| 8. | Nellore | 9.7 |
| 9. | Kurnool | 9.8 |
| 10. | Mahabocib | 1.8 |
| 11. | Nalgonda | 0.7 |
| 12. | Warpngal | 1.3 |
| 13. | Khammam | 6.4 |
| 14. | Karimnngar | 1.4 |
| 15. | Ananthapur | 0.2 |
| 16. | Adilabciel | 0.1 |
| | | 126.5 |

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) It is estimnted that about 163 M.Kgs. of tobacco was nrmluctecl in A.P. in 1993-94.